in a state of unconsciousness. On awaking to reflection, he would make inquiry as to his past or present state; but he finds that there is none to answer him. He utters a cry of alarm or agony, but no reply is given. He would conclude that he is abandoned by all; but, on turning round and round, he finds prison walls, with only so much of the light of heaven shining through as to show that pains have been taken to render his escape hopeless. What other conclusion can he draw than that he is shut up in prison, awaiting the time when he is to be brought out to trial ? Does it not seem as if man was in a somewhat similar position, abandoned and yet watched, spared *in* life, but spared as if for trial ? And it were well if, instead of seeking to drown misery by frantic Tnerriment, or to beat uselessly against his prison walls, he was endeavouring to realize the nature and extent of that crime of which he is but half-cuiiscioim, and anxiously inquiring if there be not some way of averting the judgment which may soon be pronounced against him.

SECT. TV.—THE DISTANCE OF MAN FBOM GOD.

The facts which present themselves under this head are the counterpart of those considered by us under the last. There is both an attracting and repelling principle.

First, there is a feeling in man prompting him to seek God, if haply he may find him. Transient feelings of gratitude, the fear of danger, the keen sense of sin, the fear of punishment—all those would draw or drive him into the presence of God. There are certain times in the lives of all whose hearts are not completely hardened, when their feelings flow forth spontaneously towards the God or the gods whom they have been taught tc worship. When some lovely landscape kindles the eye and expands the breast, and calls forth trains of thought which, run

towards all that is beautiful and grand, there are yet deeper feelings which, will prompt them to raise their anthem of praise with that which ascends from the works of God around. "When unexpected blessings are conferred, when a friend long absent suddenly returns, when a relative who has struggle^ for a time with the billows of death is restored to the bosom of his rejoicing family, "when some stroke of adversity is stayed at the moment